

MUSP 2140 Singer's Diction

Meets: Monday/Wednesday, 11:30-12:20, CMA 1002

Led by: Liz Pearse – epearse@bgsu.edu

(pianist: Heidi Fern Clausius)

Course materials

Websites- (Oncourse, IPAsource, Audacity)

Texts - (Title of Wall book, IT dictionary)

Other – small hand mirror, notebook, index cards, recording device (if available)

Course objectives

By the conclusion of this course, you will:

- Accurately, intelligibly, and efficiently sing Italian and English art songs
- Identify differences between spoken and sung English
- Know the resources available to you in song/aria preparation
- Accurately transcribe Italian text into IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet)
- Evaluate your diction and the diction of others through listening tasks
- “Sight-read” a brief Italian text with reasonable accuracy

This class requires that all students feel safe to take risks, make mistakes, and provide input. I will do everything I can to support you as a singer/colleague, and I expect that you will extend the same support to your colleagues in the class.

Assignments/Evaluation:

As a singer, you will rarely be evaluated on written-work alone. The focus of this course is performance – thus you will perform two art songs in class (English 10/3-10/5, Italian 11/28-11/30). I expect you to use these opportunities to practice *performing* – dressing and preparing the song as you would for a public performance. Your teacher **MUST** be involved in learning your pieces. A pianist is provided, but you may bring your own pianist if you wish.

Other than performance, there will be written transcription work in order to build facility with IPA.

We are required to meet for a “final exam” at the BGSU-required time of 10:45-12:45 on FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16. You cannot miss this meeting-time.

Attendance policy

If you are a contagious-sort of ill, *please stay home*. As singers, it is a courtesy to keep others healthy. Regardless of attendance, you are expected to keep up with coursework by contacting classmates for notes, as well as me for assignments. Your understanding of the topics *will* suffer if you are not completing work on time.

Tentative course schedule:

	M	W	Assignments (may change, check ONCOURSE)
WEEK ONE	8/ 22	8/24	Repertoire list, flash cards
WEEK TWO	8/29	8/31	Written IPA practice, introducing English diction
WEEK THREE	xxxx	9/7	Written IPA (English song choice/music due)
WEEK FOUR	9/12	9/14	Listening assignment, transcription
WEEK FIVE	9/19	9/21	Transcribing/preparing English art song
WEEK SIX	9/26	9/28	Continue preparing for performance
WEEK SEVEN	10/3	10/5	ENGLISH ART SONG PERFORMANCE
WEEK EIGHT	xxxx	10/12	Introduce Italian diction
WEEK NINE	10/17	10/19	Written practice (Italian song choice/music due)
WEEK TEN	10/24	10/26	Written practice
WEEK ELEVEN	10/31	11/2	Listening assignment, transcription
WEEK TWELVE	11/ 7	11/9	Transcription/preparing Italian art song
WEEK THIRTEEN	11/14	11/16	Transcription/review for quiz/preparing to sing
WEEK FOURTEEN	11/21	xxxx	“Quiz” – transcription with available resources
WEEK FIFTEEN	11/28	11/30	ITALIAN ART SONG PERFORMANCE
WEEK SIXTEEN	12/5	12/7	One-on-one interviews, Italian text sight-reading
FINAL: 12/16, 10:45a-12:45p			Written transcription, speaking in class

BGSU PLAGIARISM POLICY